

West Prairie Stoddard Co, Mo.

Camp Mars June 25th
1862

Dear Father,

Received your letter of

June 15th this morning. It had been a good while since I had heard from home I was glad to hear that you were all well. I am well and feel as rugged as a bare. Camp life agrees with me first rate in this country so it does with most of the boys I wrote to Fidelity the 21st I mention it so that if she does not receive the ^{letter} she will not think herself slighted. It has been very dry since about the 5th there has been but one shower since that time that was while we were at Gainsville in Arkansas and there it rained with a vengeance. The planting is all done wheat was a very poor crop much better in Arkansas than here. Cato are a perfect failure they rusted just as they did there one year. Corn looks quite well. I cannot judge of the crop not knowing how forward it ought to be at this time of year in this country at all even be husked out. Most of the farmers raise a small patch of cotton and spin and weave their own cloth the plant looks like buckwheat when it is small they raise a good deal of sorghum and lots of sweet potatoes. The country looks a good deal like the prairies south of Keosauqua though more sandy water is quite scarce all water is very good instead of steaming up the wells we put in hollow cypress logs the water is not quite so good on that account there is lots of remaining blackberries around the camp and we get the ^{best} of them for sauce. The weather has been quite warm the past week though no hotter